

CLAIMS:

16. (amended) A device to unhook ~~front~~ traction lines of a traction sail of a kite or paraglider attached to a user on the ground or on a mobile support, said user holding a traction bar having ends at which ~~rear~~ traction lines of the sail are connected in order to control orientation and power by traction on said bar relative to a body of the user, said device comprising a releasable holding means interposed on the ~~front~~ traction lines, said releasable holding means being disposed on the ~~front~~ traction lines beyond the traction bar and comprising articulation means forming a jaw clamp or a snap hook clamp held in a closed position by an elastic means, and the articulation means being connected to at least one pivoting arm provided at a free end opposite the bar with a lug conformed so as to bear against the bar when the bar is released, accidentally or not, by the user in order to cause an angular pivoting of the at least one arm automatically ensuring the release of part of the ~~front~~ traction lines disposed beyond the holding means and subsequently a total release of the user and ensuring the user's safety because the kite is no longer held in shape and thus can fall freely.

17. (previously presented) A device according to claim 16, wherein the jaw clamp or snap-hook clamp is kept closed by a spring.

18. (previously presented) A device according to claim 16, wherein said spring is helical and made from steel or elastic rubber.

19. (previously presented) A device according to claim 17, wherein said spring has a twisted leaf made from metal or plastic.

20. (previously presented) A device according to claim 17, wherein said spring comprises a piston, a push button, a ram, or a damper spring.

21. (previously presented) A device according to claim 16, wherein the elastic means comprises an elastic rubber.

22. (amended) A device according to claim 16, wherein an arm of the jaw clamp or snap-hook clamp is extended in a bottom part by a circular ring, surrounding a front length and guided by the front length, oriented horizontally and perpendicular to the front length or slightly at an angle with respect to the horizontal; wherein the circular shape of the ring enables the bar to always touch the ring and therefore cause the opening of the jaw clamp or snap-hook clamp whatever the orientation of the bar at the moment the bar comes into contact with the ring.

23. (previously presented) A device according to claim 16, wherein a spring prevents opening of the jaw clamp or snap-hook clamp by stretching or contraction, according to the point where the spring is placed.

24. (previously presented) A device according to claim 23, wherein the spring is placed between two arms.

25. (previously presented) A device according to claim 23, wherein the spring is placed between an arm and a jaw of the jaw clamp.

26. (previously presented) A device according to claim 23, wherein the spring is placed between two jaws of the jaw clamp.

27. (previously presented) A device according to claim 23, wherein the spring is placed between a jaw and a snap hook.

28. (previously presented) A device according to claim 16, wherein the lug has a solid or hollowed-out frustoconical shape.

29. (amended) A device according to claim 16, wherein the opening of the jaw clamp or snap-hook clamp is caused by a wire connected to a bottom end of an arm and to the user or to a front length connected before the device.

30. (previously presented) A device according to claim 16, further comprising a ring which pivots at the point where the ring is connected to an arm.

31. (previously presented) A device according to claim 16, further comprising an axis of a shackle pivoting about a horizontal rotary spindle fixed underneath the jaw clamp or snap-hook clamp.

32. (previously presented) A device according to claim 16, wherein a system for fixing a hook of a snap hook comes into abutment against a protrusion on an opposite jaw or on a bottom jaw of the snap hook.

33. (previously presented) A device according to claim 16, further comprising an arm being articulated by means of a rotary spindle.

34. (amended) A device according to claim 16, further comprising a ring in the form of a tube, said tube being disconnected from an arm since said tube is guided by a ~~front~~ length, and said tube coming into abutment against the arm in order to actuate opening of the jaw clamp or snap-hook clamp.

35. (amended) A device according to claim 16, wherein a jaw of the snap-hook clamp comprises a ring serving to attach a cord which will be attached at another end to the ~~front~~ traction lines.

36. (amended) A device according to claim 16, further comprising a spring functioning as a piston releasing the ~~front~~ lines by separation of lugs or brackets.

37. (amended) A device according to claim 16, further comprising a spring when pressed releases the ~~front~~ lines by a sliding of two elements which are normally kept fixed together when the spring is not pressed.

38. (previously presented) A device according to claim 16, further comprising a ring or tube comprising a stop notch and a pin passing through a bottom part of the jaw clamp or snap-hook clamp in order to hold the ring or tube and therefore prevent the sliding of the ring or tube and consequently preventing the release of the lines.

39. (amended) A device according to claim 16, wherein at least one of the ~~front~~ lines, the jaw clamp, and the snap-hook clamp has a mini-float so as to prevent sinking when the ~~front~~ lines are released and the kite is no longer flying.

40. (previously presented) A device according to claim 16, wherein the jaw clamp or snap-hook clamp comprises a clamping system for controlling firmness of an opening of the jaw clamp or snap-hook clamp.

41. (previously presented) A device according to claim 16, wherein the bar includes a damper or elastic foam placed on a periphery of a hole in the bar.

42. (previously presented) A device according to claim 16, wherein the jaw clamp or snap-hook clamp is opened by actuating an arm by pressure or traction.

43. (amended) A device according to claim 16, wherein the jaw clamp or snap-hook clamp is placed between the user and a ~~front~~ length or in the middle of the ~~front~~ length and wherein the jaw clamp or snap-hook clamp has its opening triggered by actuating an arm.

44. (previously presented) A device according to claim 16, wherein the jaw clamp or snap-hook clamp is provided with a hole or ring for attaching one or more additional lines.

45. (amended) A device according to claim 16, wherein the ~~front and rear~~ lines can be reversed at the fixing to the kite or to the bar or wherein two ~~rear~~ lines attached to the bar can

be extended by a return as far as the jaw clamp or snap-hook clamp so as to allow the release of the kite by one or other of the ~~rear or front~~ lines.